

MPA ANNUAL MEETING AND MARINE PROTECTED AREA MANAGEMENT CAPACITY BUILDING TRAINING

By Bui Thi Thu Hien

Nui Chua National Park, Ninh Thuan Province

June 6-9, 2006

Background

In December 2005, at the MPA Management Capacity training in Nha Trang, Vietnam, the MPA Management Capacity Building Training pilot project was designed to meet specific management capacity training needs of the South China Sea region, including MPAs from southern China, Viet Nam and Cambodia. The two-week training that took place in early December 2005 is the centerpiece for an on going MPA capacity building program. As a part of the training, each participant was required to build an "implementation contract". The implementation requirement is a commitment to implement on strategy from each lesson plan over the next twelve months.

One topic that was brought to the trainees' attention was the network of MPAs. Apart from the need to establish a physical network of MPAs that represents for Vietnam coastal and marine ecosystem and that ensures the ecological connectivity amongst the individual MPAs and the integrity of ecological processes. There was also the need to form a network of people working in or relevant to MPA and marine resource management of the country. It was also recognized by the trainees that an annual meeting of the network needed to be organized. The main objective the meeting is to enable its participants to review the state of marine conservation in Vietnam over a year and to share experience and lessons learnt from individual MPA, marine conservation project, NGOs and from the Ministry of Fisheries, which appears to be the key for coordinating marine conservation in Vietnam.

Side meetings held during the MPA management capacity training between people from Con Dao and Nui Chua National Park, Ha Long Management Authority, Ministry of Fisheries, IUCN, WWF also proposed that the meeting should be held at a MPA site each year and revolved amongst MPAs of Vietnam. It was proposed that the host MPA will be in charge of lodging the participants at their National Park and providing food for the attendees. Conservation agency including IUCN and WWF and MPA project of the Ministry of Fisheries will try to seek as much funding as they can to support this meeting.

Also in January 2006, at the annual meeting of Vietnam coral reef technical working group in Da Lat, the technical group had expressed its intention to organize the group's meeting in coincidence with the MPA training/annual meeting so that scientist community will be able to have dialogue with conservation practitioners to share experience and to strengthen capacity for specialists working at MPA sites. This meeting also helps managers at higher level to have the big picture of MPAs in Vietnam and develop adaptive management strategies to respond to the needs of different sites as well as those of the country as a whole.

Added to these, one point worth noting from discussion in 2005 MPA training in Nha Trang is that the annual meeting is also organized with the view to strengthening the partnership between MPAs, young professionals working at different individual MPAs; and people working at NGO and government management agencies.

Objectives MPA annual meeting and MPA training

The 2006 annual MPA annual meeting and MPA training was organized to achieve the following objectives:

MPA annual meeting

1. Formally declare the establishment of network of people working in marine conservation in Vietnam;
2. Discuss and agree up on the network's regulations which includes role, responsibility and benefit of the network members;
3. Further discuss and agree upon how to maintain the network and how to maximize the benefits for its members;
4. Officially nominate and vote for the three positions of the network including chairman, vice chairman and coordinator;
5. Review the state of marine conservation at different individual MPAs of Vietnam and share experience and lessons learnt from MPAs of Vietnam
6. Get introduced on coral reef conservation action plan of Vietnam
7. Discuss the challenges facing MPAs of the whole country and addressing strategy

MPA training

1. Review the implementation of the "Implementation Contract" committed by participants (December 05 MPA training in Nha trang);
2. Conduct a short training in Vietnamese for MPA managers from Cat Ba, Phu Quoc, Coto , Con Co, and Bai Tu Long who were not participate in the first MPA training in December 2005.

Output of the 2006 MPA annual meeting and MPA capacity training

Corresponding to the aforementioned objectives, the meeting achieved the following outputs:

MPA annual meeting:

1. Network of people working in marine conservation in Vietnam formally established;
2. An agreed statement on established the network of people working in the field of marine conservation of Vietnam;
3. An agreed regulation on the operation principles of the network;
4. The network chairman, vice chairman and coordinator nominated and elected by the network members;
5. Lessons learned and experiences shared amongst the network members;
6. Network members are aware of National Coral reef Conservation Action Plan;
7. Emerging issues and threats to marine environment and resources defined;
8. Strategy for addressing these identified challenges;

MPA training:

1. MPA managers (who did not attend the MPA training in Nha Trang, Dec 2005) from Phu Quoc, Coto, Bai Tu Long, Con Co and Cat Ba were provided with principal MPA management concepts, techniques and skills and signed in the MPA network;
2. "Implementation contract" was reported and shared among the participants;
3. Identified priorities for final training workshop in December 2006 and identified advanced training and interest in learning exchanges during the next 6 months.

Timing of the meeting

Combined training/annual meeting was conducted from 6-9 June 2006 (Annex 2)

The meeting venue

The meeting took place in **Hoan Cau Resort, Ninh Thuan** province, Vietnam

Participants of the meeting (annex 1)

Representatives from Bai Tu Long National Park, Proposed Co To MPA, Ha Long Bay Authority, Cat Ba National Park, Proposed Con Co MPA, Nha Trang Bay MPA, Cu Lao Cham

MPA, Nui Chua National Park, Con Dao National Park and Proposed Phu Quoc MPA, IUCN, MOFI and WWF participated in the meeting.

The meeting organization committee

Tran Chinh Khuong – WWF

Bui Thi Thu Hien and Le Quang Dung – IUCN

Nguyen Giang Thu, MPA Project

Nguyen Van Long – NIO

MOFI (representatives)

Trainers and facilitators for MPA training

Anne Walton

Nguyen Chu Hoi

Chu Tien Vinh

Tran Phong

Nguyen Van Long

Tran Chinh Khuong

Nguyen Giang Thu

Bui Thi Thu Hien

Nguyen Quang Hung

Facilitators for 2006 MPA annual meeting

Nguyen Chu Hoi

Bui Thi Thu Hien

Nguyen Giang Thu

Tran Chinh Khuong

Annex 1:
List of participants

			Travel support	Sources
1	Bai Tu Long	Ngo Van Dinh	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
2	Ha Long Bay	Ngo Van Hung	No	HLB
3		Le Lam Tuan	No	HLB
4		Nguyen Cong Thai	No	HLB
5	Co To	Hoang Thanh	Yes	MPA project
6	Cat Ba	Nguyen Phien Ngung	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
7		Nguyen Van Thang	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
8	Con Co	Le Quang Lanh	Yes	MPA Project
9	Cu Lao Cham	Nguyen Van Hien	Yes	MPA Project
10		Chu Manh Trinh	Yes	MPA project
11	Nha Trang Bay	Truong Kinh	No	
12		Nguyen Thi Kim Hoa	No	
13		Cao Thi Truc Duyen	No	
14		Nguyen Quynh Giao	No	
15	Nui Chua	Pham Van Xiem	No	
16		Nguyen Huu Hoan	No	
17	Con Dao	Nguyen Truong Giang	No	
18	Phu Quoc	Nguyen Hong Cuong	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
19	MOFI/ICD	Nguyen Van Trieu	Yes	MPA/Danida Project
20	MOFI/STD	Nguyen Xuan Ly	Yes	MPA/Danida Proeject
21	IUCN	Bui Thi Thu Hien	No	IUCN/NOAA
22		Le Quang Dung	No	IUCN/NOAA
23	WWF	Keith Symington	No	WWF
24		Tran Chinh Khuong	No	WWF
25	MPA Project	Nguyen Giang Thu	No	MPA Project
26	VIFEP/MOFI	Nguyen Chu Hoi	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
27		Phan Ngoc Diep	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
28	RIMF/MOFI	Nguyen Quang Hung	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
29	NOAA	Anne Walton	Yes	IUCN/NOAA
30	NIO	Nguyen Van Long	No	NIO
31	NADAREP/MOFI	Chu Tien Vinh	No	NADAREP
32		Nguyen Viet Cuong	No	NADAREP
33	IMER	Tu Lan Huong/Nguyen Van Quan	No	IMER
34	Binh Dinh	Nguyen Thi Lien	No	Con Chim Project
35	Fisheries University	Ton Nu My Nga	No	

Annex 2:

Tentative agenda of the 2006 MPA network meeting and MPA training

Tuesday 6 June 2006 – 2006 MPA network meeting

Time	Topic / issue	Presenter
7:45 - 8:00	Registration	
8.00 - 8:15	Opening and remarks	Dr. Vu Van Trieu Mr. Nguyen Huu Hoan, Director of Nui Chua National Park
8.15 – 8.30	Annual meeting/training background and objectives; and significance of the network of MPA professionals	Tran Chinh Khuong/Bui Thi Thu Hien
8.30 – 9.30	Discussion and agreed upon regulation of the network of marine protected area professionals; Nomination and selection of chairman, vice chairman and coordinator	Dr. Chu Tien Vinh, NAD_REP
9.30 – 9.45	Coffee break	
9.45 – 10.00	Introduction on Support to MPA component MOFI/DANIDA	Nguyen Giang Thu – Donald Macintosh; MPA component, MOFI/DANIDA
10.00 – 10.15	IUCN efforts in supporting marine protected area in Vietnam, status and future plan.	Bui Thi Thu Hien, IUCN
10:15 – 10.30	Ongoing and future plan for conserving marine biodiversity and resources	Tran Chinh Khuong and Keith Symington; WWF
10.30 – 10.50	General introduction on Nui Chua National Park, and marine conservation efforts;	Pham Van Xiem – Nui Chua National Park
10.50 – 11.10	General introduction on Nha Trang Bay MPA; priorities conservation program;	Truong Kinh, Nha Trang Bay MPA
11.10 – 11.30	Status of marine conservation of Cu Lao Cham marine protected area;	Representatives from Cu Lao Cham MPA
11.30 – 11.50	General introduction on Cat Ba National Park, and marine conservation efforts	Representatives from Cat Ba National Park
11.50 – 13.30	Lunch	
13:30 - 13:50	Status of marine conservation of Con Dao National Park;	Nguyen Truong Giang, Con Dao National Park
13.50 - 14:10	Marine conservation: Case study in Ha Long Bay;	Representatives from Ha Long Bay authority
14:10 - 14:30	Status of marine conservation in Con Chim, Binh Dinh	Nguyen Thi Lien, Binh Dinh Dept of Fisheries

14:30 -14.50	Seagrass work in IMER	Tu lan Huong or Nguyen Van Quan, IMER
14.50 – 15.10	Status of MPA project support to establishment of Phu Quoc, CoTo, Bach Long Vi and Con Co MPAs	Nguyen Giang Thu – MOFI
15.10 – 15.30	Coffee break	
15:30 - 16:45	Discussion on emerging issue and challenges to MPAs of Vietnam and responding strategy	Plenary discussion , Chair by Dr. Chu Tien Vinh Facilitate: Tran Chinh Khuong
16:45 - 17:00	Closing 2006 MPA network annual meeting	Dr. Chu Tien Vinh
18:00	Dinner host by Nui Chua National Park	

Wednesday 7 June 2006 – MPA training day 1

Time	Topic / issue	Presenter
7.45 – 8.00	Opening and remarks	Nguyen Chu Hoi, Anne Walton, IUCN and MPA project
8:00 - 10:00	Review of the state of undertaking “implementation contracts”	Representatives from MOFI, RIMF, WWF, IUCN; IMER and Ha Long Bay, Nha Trang Bay, Cu Lao Cham, Nui Chua and Con Dao Protected areas, and Con Chim project, Fisheries University
10:00 - 10:30	MPA Concepts - Importance of Biodiversity Protection, Lesson learnt from pilot MPA Hon Mun project	Truong Kinh and Bui Thi Thu Hien IUCN
10:30 -10:45	Coffee break	
10.45– 11.20	Management Planning; Planning process	Anne Walton, NOAA
11.20 – 11.40	Nha Trang Bay case study: Zoning for management of marine protected area	Representative from Nha Trang MPA
11:40 - 12:00	Question and answers	
12:00 - 13:30	Lunch break	
13:30 - 14:30	Community based marine resource management	Tran Chinh Khuong – WWF
14:30 -15:15	MPA network and connectivity of MPAs	Anne Walton, NOAA
15.15 -15:30	Coffee break	
15:30 -15:45	Sustainable tourism, Awareness building and managing visitor, carrying capacity (Sustainable tourism)	Bui Thi Thu Hien, IUCN
15:45 - 16:15	The role of ICM in MPA management	Nguyen Chu Hoi, VIFEP
16:15 - 16:45	Fundamental of Fisheries Management; Over fishing issues	Nguyen Quang Hung, RIMF/MOFI
16:45 - 17:30	Group discussions; Question and answers	All participants Chair by Dr. Nguyen Chu Hoi Facilitate: Bui Thi Thu Hien
18:30	Diner host by organizing committee	

Thursday 8 June 2006 – MPA training day 2

Time	Topic / issue	Presenter
7:45 -8:00	Review the Day 2	
8:00 - 9:00	New and emerging issues on MPA management and how to address them across a network	Anne Walton, NOAA
9:00 - 9:30	Introduction on national GIS database and management action plan of coral reef	Nguyen Van Long, NIO
9:30 -10:15	Introduction of conservation activity in Phu Quoc island	Nguyen Hong Cuong, Phu Quoc Island / or and Nguelyn Van Long, NIO
10:15 -10:30	Coffee break	
10:30 -12:00	Discussion about MPA network in Vietnam. What does coordinated enforcement or monitoring look like when planning on the network scale rather than just on the individual site level.	All participants, Chair by Anne Walton, NOAA and Nguyen Giang Thu, MOFI Facilitate: Nguyen Giang Thu
12:00 -13:30	Lunch break	
13:30 -14:30	Continue discussion to identify priorities for final training workshop in December 2006 and identify advanced training and interest in learning exchanges during the next 6 months.	Anne Walton, NOAA
14:30 -15:30	Summary and closing the MPA training	Dr. Nguyen Chu Hoi, and Nguyen Huu Hoan
15:30 -15:45	Coffee break	
15:45 - 17:00	UNEP/SCS Coral Reef Component meeting	Nguyen Van Long, NIO
18.00	Farewell party host by UNEP/SCS Project, Coral Reef Component	

Day 4: Friday 9 June 2006

Field trip to Nui Chua National Park

(Detail programme to be discussed)

Free diner

Day 5: Saturday 10 June 2006

Participants leaving Ninh Thuan

Notes: Translation will be supported by :

Bui Thi Thu Hien, Tran Chinh Khuong, Le Quang Dung, Nguyen Thanh Thuy